UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FIFTIETH SESSION

Official Records

GENERAL COMMITTEE
3rd meeting
held on
Friday, 20 October 1995
at 9.30 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 3rd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. FREITAS do AMARAL
(President of the General Assembly)

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Distr. GENERAL
A/BUR/50/SR.3
2 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

95-81733 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 9.55 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FIFTIETH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Philippines (A/50/232)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider a request for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace".

2. The representative of the Philippines had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

3. At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Limjuco (Philippines) took a place at the Committee table.

4. Ms. LIMJUCO (Philippines), introducing the request contained in document A/50/232, said that at least one plenary meeting of the General Assembly should be devoted to the item for the purpose of endorsing the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, and that substantive consideration of the item should be allocated to the Second and Third Committee respectively, as appropriate. The plenary meeting should preferably take place before the Third Committee began its discussion of agenda item 107 on the advancement of women.

5. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the addition item on the agenda.

6. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting for the purpose of endorsing the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action and that it should also be allocated to the Second and Third Committees, as appropriate, for its substantive consideration.

7. Ms. Limjuco (Philippines) withdrew.

Request for the inclusion of an additional sub-item submitted by a number of countries (A/50/233)

8. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider a request for the inclusion of an additional sub-item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights".

9. The representative of Ecuador had indicated his desire to address the Committee on the matter in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

10. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Valencia Rodriguez (Ecuador) took a place at the Committee table.

11. Mr. VALENCIA RODRIGUEZ (Ecuador), speaking also on behalf of Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela, introduced the request contained in document A/50/233, noting that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights had been given unprecedented political and moral authority in order that he might act as the moral conscience of mankind. The gravity of the responsibility that went with the post could be measured by the degree of confidence Member States had placed in it as well as by its general acceptance in governmental as well as non-governmental circles.

12. The High Commissioner should be guided by the principles of impartiality, objectivity, non-selectivity and efficiency, in the knowledge that all human rights were universal, indivisible and interdependent, and should perform his duties within the context of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments relating to human rights and international law.

13. The delegations on whose behalf he spoke felt that it was necessary to include in the agenda of the General Assembly a sub-item which would facilitate the Assembly's consideration of the report that the High Commissioner was requested to submit yearly in compliance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 48/141.

14. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional sub-item as a sub-item of agenda item 112.

15. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the sub-item should be allocated to the Third Committee.

The meeting rose at 10.15 a.m.

UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FIFTIETH SESSION

Official Records

GENERAL COMMITTEE
4th meeting
held on
Thursday, 9 November 1995
at 9.30 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 4th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. FREITAS DO AMARAL
(President of the General Assembly)

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Request for the inclusion of an additional sub-item submitted by the Secretary-General

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24 November 1995

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The meeting was called to order at 9.45 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FIFTIETH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional sub-item submitted by the Philippines (A/50/234)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider a request for the inclusion of an additional sub-item entitled "Food and agricultural development" in the agenda of the current session, contained in document A/50/234. The representative of the Philippines had asked to address the Committee on the matter in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mrs. Rebong (Philippines) took a place at the Committee table.

3. Mrs. REBONG (Philippines) said that, at the 1995 Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), it had been decided to convene a World Food Summit, to be held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996. To enable the General Assembly to give appropriate support to that Summit, the Group of 77 and China urgently requested the inclusion of an additional sub-item, to be entitled "Food and sustainable agricultural development", under item 95, Sustainable development and international economic cooperation, and to be considered in its entirety by the Second Committee. Inclusion of that sub-item would enable the General Assembly to adopt an appropriate resolution on the issue.

4. Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria) said that his country supported the request by the Philippines. The problems in the world food situation identified by FAO at its recent Conference gave grounds for expecting the food crisis to worsen over the next few years, and it was therefore vital for the General Assembly to adopt a resolution supporting the forthcoming World Food Summit.

5. He drew attention to a typographical error in the French text, in which the date of the Summit should read "novembre 1996", and not "novembre 1995".

6. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional sub-item in the agenda as a sub-item of agenda item 95.

7. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the sub-item should be allocated to the Second Committee.

Request for the inclusion of an additional sub-item submitted by the Secretary-General (A/50/235)

8. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider a request by the Secretary-General for the inclusion in the agenda of an additional sub-item entitled "Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit", contained in document A/50/235.

9. In his note (A/50/235), the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the resignation of Mr. Ali Badara Tall (Burkina Faso), one of the four members of the Joint Inspection Unit appointed by the Assembly by its decision 49/321 of 23 December 1994 for a five-year term of office beginning on 1 January 1996 and expiring on 31 December 2000. The Assembly would therefore have to appoint a new member of the Unit for the term of office indicated.

10. Since agenda item 17 of the current session, entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments", did not include a sub-item relating to the appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit, it was proposed to include in the agenda of the current session, under agenda item 17, an additional sub-item entitled "Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit", and to consider it directly in plenary meeting.

11. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional sub-item in the agenda as a sub-item of agenda item 17.

12. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

The meeting rose at 9.55 a.m.